

Abstract

The present invention relates to a novel Neutrokin- α protein which is a member of the TNF protein family. In particular, isolated nucleic acid molecules are provided encoding the human Neutrokin- α protein including soluble forms of the extracellular domain. Neutrokin- α polypeptides are also provided as are vectors, host cells and recombinant methods for producing the same. The invention further relates to screening methods for identifying agonists and antagonists of Neutrokin- α activity. Also provided are diagnostic methods for detecting immune system-related disorders and therapeutic methods for treating immune system-related disorders.